



## The Global Business Coalition Members Call to G20 for Measures to Enable Global Supply of Vital Protective Gear, Medicines and Medical Supplies

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We, national business federations representing millions of enterprises of every size and sector, acknowledge that the current crisis requires unusual policies. We are aware that States and governments make considerable efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, with the responsibility to save lives and mitigate the effects of the pandemic on the economy, under major pressure. We, members of the Global Business Coalition, reiterate our full commitment to supporting the international institutions as well as our respective governments.

In this terrible context, we are very concerned about the increasing spread of trade restrictions. These can cause disruptions in the production of vital supplies and exacerbate supply bottlenecks at the most critical moment.

We therefore urge governments and multilateral organizations to consider the following proposals in order to ensure sustained and equitable patient access to lifesaving technologies:

- Adopt policies to protect and strengthen the global supply chain of critically needed lifesaving and life-sustaining products and services, as well as the free movement of goods, raw materials and personnel associated with those supply chains.
- Measures should include international coordination to ensure:
  - critical supply chains' continued operation, while taking all necessary precautions to keep essential facilities and personnel safe;

- and the preservation of uninterrupted international trade flows, as well as national transportation and distribution of goods, services and critical personnel.
- Adopt policies to incentivize local production and capacity increase, facilitate voluntary collaboration in technology/ business knowledge transfer and strengthen international cooperation for investment in this specific area. We believe they would help address the medium to long-term impacts and uncertainties raised by the pandemic.
- Explore international coordination to support fair, ethical and science-based allocation of lifesaving and life-sustaining goods critical to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the current mismatch between demand and supply, and the limited number of suppliers, such coordination is essential. We believe that a coalition of governments, multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations and industry should be convened, in order to rapidly put in place a Global Covid-19 Supplies Committee, which could:
  - Serve as a clearinghouse for transparent and critical information about global supply chain status, issues and solutions;
  - Suggest actions to governments needed to address supply chain challenges;
  - Propose ethical and science-based principles for the most effective and efficient allocation and use of critical technology in addressing COVID-19 challenges;
  - Serve as a forum to identify, discuss and resolve challenges in global supply allocation in accordance with scientific and ethical principles.
  - Communicate with private sector in a regular and transparent manner in developing economic policies in response to the pandemic.

We, members of the Global Business Coalition, believe that on-going dialogue with business, employees and their representatives on the scope, content and implementation of extraordinary measures is essential to mitigating the negative impact of COVID-19 on employment and business.



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President, Global Business Coalition (GBC)

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This statement is issued by the Global Business Coalition members, in Berlin, Brasilia, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Casablanca, Cairo, Istanbul, London, Madrid, New Delhi, Ottawa, Paris, Rome, Seoul, Sydney, and Washington, D.C.

The Global Business Coalition brings together leading independent business associations from the major world economies and advocates on behalf of more than 6.8 million small, medium and large companies. GBC, established in 2012, operates as a worldwide platform of exchanges between national business communities, and aims at building consensus and developing common positions on issues critical for enterprises. Through its broad-based representation, GBC engages policy-makers at a global scale and advocates policies that contribute to growth and job creation at regional and international levels.

### GBC MEMBERS



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